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TAGS: [ETRD](#) [WTO](#)

SUBJECT: WTO SERVICES NEGOTIATIONS: IRISH VIEWS ON PRIORITIES FOR EU MARKET ACCESS

REF: STATE 270998

**¶1.** Following is Post's rating for the service sectors listed refTEL, based on priorities for U.S. service suppliers and market openness. For service sector priorities, we gave the most weight to growth potential. The market access ratings reflect Ireland's status as one of the world's most globalized economies. For example, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) World Investment Report 2003 noted that Ireland was one of the leading beneficiaries of the global shift to services-focused FDI. The medium rating we assigned to some professional services (such as legal services) generally reflected educational and certification standards that must be met, rather than barriers to entry.

--Legal services 2/M  
--Accounting, auditing and bookkeeping services 2/M-H  
--Taxation services 2/M-H  
--Architectural services 1/M  
--Engineering and integrated engineering services 1/M-H  
--Urban planning and landscape architectural services 1/M  
--Computer and related services 1/H  
--Research and development services 1/H  
--Real estate services 2/H  
--Rental/Leasing Services 4/H  
--Advertising services 3/M-H  
--Market research and public opinion, polling services 3/M-H  
--Management consulting services 2/H  
--Technical testing and analysis services (including energy related testing services) 2/M  
--Services incidental to agriculture, hunting and forestry, and fishing 4/M  
--Services incidental to mining 4/M  
--Energy services (including land site preparation, drilling and plugging) 4/M  
--Services incidental to energy distribution 3/M  
--Placement and supply services of personnel 3/M-H  
--Investigation and security 4/L  
--Related scientific and technical consulting services 2/H  
--Maintenance and repair of equipment 5/M-L  
--Building-cleaning services 5/M-L  
--Photographic services 5/M-H  
--Packaging services 4/M  
--Printing, publishing 4/M-H  
--Convention services 4/M  
--Courier services (Express Delivery) 3/L (Market access is rated low because of restrictions in the U.S.-Ireland air transportation agreement that limit access by U.S. cargo carriers.)  
--Telecommunication services 2/M-H  
--Audiovisual services 4/M  
--Construction and related engineering 1/H  
--Distribution Services, including: commission agents' services, wholesale trade services, retailing services, and franchising 3/M  
--Educational Services, including: higher education services, adult education (i.e., vocational), other education services (i.e., testing and computer or language training) 3/M  
--Environmental services (wastewater treatment, sanitation, protection of ambient air and climate, remediation and clean up, noise and vibration abatement, and biodiversity protection) 2/H  
--Insurance services 2/M-H  
--Banking and other financial services including securities 2/H (As a complement to the National Pensions Reserve Fund, the Government in 2001 established Special Savings Incentive Accounts (SSIAs), which operate like 401K accounts with government-matching contributions. Private firms are involved in the management of SSIAs, and there are opportunities for U.S. firms to compete for participation in management.)  
--Tourism and travel-related services, including: hotels and restaurants, catering, travel agencies and tour operators services, and tourist guides services 3/H  
--Recreation and sporting services (other than audiovisual services), including: entertainment services (including theater, live bands and circus services), news agency services; libraries, archives, museums and other cultural services; sporting and other recreational services. 3/M

KENNY